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Date:

February 20, 2003

From:

Peter J. Bilinski

To:

Lawrence D. Ferguson

Art Unit 1774

FAX #:

703-746-7178

RE:

Our File No. 245 361RCE

U.S. Patent Application No. 09/508,316

You should receive 6 page(s) including this cover sheet. If you do not receive all pages, please call 315/425-9000.

COMMENTS:

Enclosed please find a draft copy of an Amendment for the above-captioned patent application for discussion purposed only on February 27th at 1:30 PM.

Thank you.

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WALL MARJAMA & BILINSKI LLP

FOR DISCUSSION PURPOSES ONLY

Practitioner's Docket No.: 245_361RCE

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the application of:

Pierre Girard et al.

February 20, 2003

Ser. No.: 09/508,316

Art Unit: 1774

Filed:

March 9, 2000

Examiner: Lawrence D. Ferguson

For:

PAPER OR BOARD WITH IMPROVED PRINTABILITY

Box Non-Fee Amendment Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, DC 20231 Thereby certifying this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail addressed to Box Non-Kee Amendment, Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington D.C. 20231, buffelinary 20, 2003.

AMENDMENT

Sir:

In response to the Office Action, Paper No. 15, dated December 23, 2002, please amend the above-captioned patent application, without prejudice, as follows:

In the Claims:

Please amend Claims 1 and 4 as follows:

1. (Three Times Amended) At least one of a paper and a board consisting of a fibrous medium coated with at least one conventional surface coat intended to be printed by gravure or flexographic printing, and including, between the fibrous medium and the conventional surface coat, and inner coat of a composition based on specific pigments, said inner coat being deposited in an amount from one to five grams per square meter (1 to 5 g/m²), wherein:

the composition of the conventional surface coat does not contain silica;

•and the composition of the inner coat includes at least one specific pigment chosen exclusively from the group consisting of silica and precipitated calcium carbonate (PCC).

4. (Three Times Amended) A process for the manufacture of a paper or a board, intended to be printed by gravure or flexographic printing, which consists of the followings steps: